

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

CENTRAL REGION - PLANNING

4111 AVIATION AVENUE P.O. BOX 796900 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA **99519-6900** (TDD 269-0473) (907) 269-0520 (FAX **269-0521**)

**December 8, 1999** 

RE: Southwest Alaska Transporation Plan

Thomas Tinker, Mayor City of Aleknagik P.O. Box 33 Aleknagik, AK 99555

Dear Mayor Tinker:

Bristol Bay Native Corporation (BBNC) has requested that additional steps be taken to ensure that the inter-community transportation needs of Bristol Bay communities are clearly understood by our Department and that these needs are addressed to the extent feasible in the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan that is currently under development. We agree that these are worthwhile goals and are willing to work with all interested parties to that end. We would appreciate your thoughts if you think the plan's preliminary analysis has thus far failed to consider regionally significant transportation alternatives or strategies, especially with respect to the Bristol Bay region.

On December 7, Jeff Ottesen, Chief of our Department's Statewide Planning, presented a briefing on the plan to the BBNC Village Leadership Workshop in Anchorage. We were pleased to see that representatives from your community were in attendance. One handout provided attendees was the plan's Description of Alternatives Technical Memorandum. It is an executive summary of the transportation alternatives thus far developed. If you haven't had the opportunity to see this document, as well as other previously published plan documents, we would be glad to provide them to you.

You can request hard copies of these documents or provide us your comments pertaining to the plan using the following methods:

- Toll-free phone #1-888-PLANDOT (752-6368)
- Toll-free fax #1-888-PLANFAX (752-6329)
- E-mail plan dot@dot.state.ak.us Or planning comments@dot.state.ak.us
- Website (<a href="www.dot.state.ak.us">www.dot.state.ak.us</a>, then follow the links to planning and area studies to the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan). Please note that we have also recently added a correspondence reading room to the Southwest Plan's web page where you can read letters the Department has received concerning the plan along with our responses.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please be assured it is our mutual concern that the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan be an effective tool in identifying and facilitating needed transportation improvements throughout southwest Alaska.

If you have any questions please call either Eric Taylor (Statewide Area Plans) or Jeff Ottesen (Chief Statewide Planning) using the toll-free number above, or their direct line (907) 465-8958.

Sincerely,

Jack Melton

JDM/wg

cc: Aleknagik Natives Limited Native Village of Aleknagik Bristol Bay Native Corporation Statewide Planning